

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 172787
ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 /031 R

DRAFTED BY HA/ORM:KDTTHOMAS:BA
APPROVED BY HA/ORM:HBCUSHING
HA/ORM:JBROH-KAHN
HA/EX:KDKING
S/S-EX:SMITH (PHONE)
EA/EX:MKINKAID (PHONE)
-----063382 082327Z /64
R 080451Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: STAFFING - INDOCHINESE PAROLE PROGRAM

REF: A. STATE 148303, B. BANGKOK 18336

1. DEPT IS STILL SEARCHING FOR AN EXPERIENCED SENIOR SECRETARY FOR A REGULAR TWO-YEAR ASSIGNMENT TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF BANGKOK REFUGEE SECTION. PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENT BRANCH HAS BEEN ADVERTISING FOR SUCH A PERSON, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN NO RESPONSES SO FAR.

2. WE CONCUR WITH YOUR SUGGESTION TO USE AN EMBASSY SPOUSE AS A PIT SECRETARY. WE WILL PURSUE ALLOCATION OF AN ADDITIONAL PIT POSITION FOR THIS PURPOSE ASAP. WE HAVE ALSO INFORMALLY CHECKED WITH PER REGARDING MRS. LUNSFORD. IT APPEARS THAT SHE WORKED FOR THE CANADIAN FOREIGN SERVICE
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AND NOT THE U.S. FOREIGN SERVICE. IF THIS IS CORRECT, APPOINTING HER WOULD TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS FOR THE NECESSARY SECURITY CHECKS. PLEASE CLARIFY HER OLD EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND/OR FIND ANOTHER, MORE SUITABLE CANDIDATE WHILE WE PROCURE THE PIT POSITION FROM PER.

3. EARLIER, AS PROMISED REF A, DEPT HAD SELECTED AND

APPOINTED AN EXPERIENCED SENIOR SECRETARY FOR A 60 TO 90 DAY

TDY TO REPLACE GEORGIA ACTON. A FEW DAYS BEFORE DEPARTURE, HOWEVER, THE PERSON SELECTED DECIDED NOT TO GO. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE AS MUCH OVERLAP AS POSSIBLE BEFORE MISS ACTON'S IMMINENT DEPARTURE, DEPT HAD TO SCRAMBLE TO FIND THE BEST TDY PERSON AVAILABLE. WE COULD NOT, HOWEVER, FIND A FOREIGN SERVICE SECRETARY WITH SHORTHAND SKILLS WHO COULD LEAVE ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE, AND THEREFORE DECIDED IT WAS BETTER TO SEND MISS LEONARD, WHO IS KNOWN TO BE A GOOD WORKER, ALTHOUGH SHE DID NOT HAVE SHORTHAND SKILLS, RATHER THAN TO SEND NO ONE. WE REGRET WE DID NOT COMMUNICATE THIS INFORMATION TO YOU BEFORE MISS LEONARD'S URGENT DEPARTURE. VANCE

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